

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application.

Claims:

1-3 (Cancelled)

[4]2. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [28]1, wherein said nucleic acid comprises nucleotides 81-944 of the human heme oxygenase-I nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

[5]3. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [28]1, wherein said contacting is *ex vivo*.

[6]4. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [28]1, wherein said contacting is *in vivo*.

[7]5. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [28]1, wherein said organ transplant is an allograft.

[8]6. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [7]5, wherein said allograft is a heart.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

[11]7. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [28]1, wherein said contacting is accomplished by direct injection of said adenoviral vector into said organ.

[12]8. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [28]1, wherein the heme oxygenase-I activity in said cells is increased.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

[16]11.(Currently amended) The method according to Claim [29]9, wherein said contacting is *ex vivo*.

[17]12.(Currently amended) The method according to Claim [29]9, wherein said contacting is *in vivo*.

[18]13 (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [29]9, wherein said organ transplant is an allograft.

[19]14 (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [18]13 wherein said allograft is a heart.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

[22]15 (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [29]9, wherein said contacting is accomplished by direct injection of said adenoviral vector into said organ.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

[28]1. (Currently amended) A method for extending the survival of an organ transplant in a recipient, said method comprising:

contacting cells of an organ transplant with an adenoviral vector comprising a nucleic acid having at least about 80% sequence identity to nucleotides 81-944 of the human heme oxygenase-I nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide having heme-oxygenase activity; and

whereby the survival time of said organ transplant is extended.

[29]9. (Currently amended) A method for extending the survival of an organ transplant in a recipient, said method comprising:

contacting cells of an organ transplant with an adenoviral vector comprising a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide with at least about 80% amino acid sequence identity with the human heme oxygenase-I encoded by nucleotides 81-944 of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said polypeptide has heme-oxygenase activity, and

whereby the survival time of said organ transplant is extended.

[30]10.(Currently amended) The method according to ~~claim 29~~Claim 9, wherein said polypeptide comprises human heme oxygenase encoded by nucleotides 81-944 of the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: 1.

[31]16 (Currently amended) The method according to Claim [29]9, wherein the heme oxygenase-I activity in said cells is increased.